scheme was included under Family Welfare Programme and 100 per cent Central assistance was resumed. Funds have been released every year in four quarterly instalments.

(b) During the period from 1986-87 and to 1988-89, the Central assistance released to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and the expenditure reported by the State is as under:

Years	Central Assistance Released	Expenditure reported by the State Govt.
	(Rs. in lakhs)	*(Rs. in lakhs)*
Amount remaining unspent with the State Govt. as on 1-4-86 out of Central Assistance released during previous years.	29.27	
1986-87	217.46	291.03
1987-88	157.80	338.49
1988-89	206.32	246.46
TOTAL	610.85	875.98

The outstanding dues which are claimed by any particular State for any particular scheme are examined as a part of total expenditure incurred under the Family Welfare Programme as a whole Arrears claimed for payment by Government of Andhra Pradesh since 1981 onwards have not been finalised due to non receipt of audited figures of expenditure.

(c) to (f) The Government has constituted a Task Force to examine in detail the Village Health Guide Scheme including the pattern of financial assistance. The report of the Task Force is under examination.

Indus Valley Script found in Lothal Excavations

*309. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indus Valley script found recently in the inscriptions in the course of excavations at the ancient port town of Lothal, has been deciphered;

(b) if so, whether the Scientists in the National Institute of Oceanography in India and abroad have been able to decipher some of the code words of the Indus Valley language, which refer to constellations, weather, plant and animal life;

(c) if so, the results achieved so far in this regard;

(d) whether at proto-Indo-European language, similar to that of the script, found at Lothal, is also being considered for use in the development of a future official language of space stations, worldwide and for communications with extra-terrestrial life, through the space stations; and

(e) if so, the progress made so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to(c) Efforts have been made to decipher inscriptions written in Indus script found at Lothal and other Harappan sites by various scholars but the readings proposed by

them have neither been treated as final nor accepted unanimously.

(d) and (e) Though some researchers in France have made such statements it is difficult to see how Indus Valley language can be used in the manner suggested until it has been deciphered and accepted generally.

Bringing of Telephone Exchanges in National Capital Region under MTN Limited

*310. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring all the telephone exchanges, falling within the National Capital Region, under the Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Ltd.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when '86' exchanges are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited covers only the Union Territory of Delhi and it is not the policy of Government to extend the jurisdiction to the entire National Capital Region.

(d) The '86' exchange is located in Ghaziabad Telecom District in UP Telecom Circle and is expected to be converted into electronic exchange by March, 1993.

Closing down of Non-viable Public Enterprises

*311. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received some suggestions from the panel of economists, working under the Planning Commission, for closing down some of the non-viable public sector enterprises;

(b) if so, whether any identification of those enterprises has been made;

(c) whether it is a fact that lack of foresight and improper use of human resources have been the major causes for making those enterprises non-viable;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what steps are proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of those units, instead of closing down or selling out such units?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. During the sixth meeting of Panel of Economists held on 26-7-1989, a suggestion was made that those public enterprises which cannot become viable may be closed down or sold off or restarted as private enterprises.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The viability of public sector enterprises depends on a number of factors including proper planning and execution. The other major factors are a judicious product mix, proper assessment of the market, right choice of technology location of units, rigid adherence to time and investment schedules, effective management and healthy industrial relations.

(e) The remedial steps to improve the working of public sector enterprises would vary from unit to unit, depending upon the circumstances. These include: modernisation of plant and equipment, technological upgradation, diversification of product mix, pricing flexibility, strengthening of management, labour rationalisation, retaining and re-deployment of labour, formation of holding companies, capital restructuring, etc.